MINUTES

OF SOME LATE

CONVERSATIONS

BETWEEN THE

REV. JOHN WESLEY, M. A.

AND OTHERS.

DUBLIN:

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MDCCLXXXVII.

MINUTES, &c.

DUBLIN, July 6th, 1787.

QUEST. 1. WHAT Preachers are *admitted* this Year?

ANSW. None.

Q. 2. Who *remain on trial?*

A. Benjamin Pearce, John Dinnen, Thomas Verner, Samuel Bates, Thomas Owens, David Gordon, Francis Frazier, John Harper, Thomas Roberts, John Gillis, Samuel Moorhead, John Grace.

Q. 3. Who are *admitted on trial?*

A. John Burnett, Andrew Jeffers, John Black, William Johnſon, George Henderſon, John Darragh, Francis Armſtrong, William M'Cornock, Thomas Hewett, John Melcombſon, Thomas Kerr, John Weſt, Hugh Pugh.

Q. 4. Who has *died* this Year?

A. *Thomas Seaward,* a pious, zealous, blameleſs, uſeful young man.

Q. 5. Are there any objections to any of our Preachers?

A. They were examined one by one.

Q. 6. How are the Preachers *ſtationed* this Year?

A. As follows:

1. *Dublin.*

1. *Dublin,*	Henry Moore, William Myles.
2. *Waterford,*	David Gordon, Andrew Jeffers.
3. *Cork,*	James Rogers, Matthias Joyce.
4. *Bandon,*	Richard Condy, Benjamin Pearce.
5. *Limerick,*	Jonathan Brown, John Dinnen.
6. *Caſtlebar,*	George Brown, William M'Cornock, ſen. William M'Cornock, jun.
7. *Athlone,*	Walter Griffith, John Miller.
8. *Longford,*	William Weſt, John Weſt.
9. *Sligo,*	Francis Frazier, William Johnſon.
10. *Ballyconnel,*	Joſeph Armſtrong, James Rennick, John Grace.
11. *Clones,*	Robert Armſtrong, John Black, Hugh Pugh.
12. *Liſbellaw,*	Samuel Mitchell, Thomas Verner, John Gillis.
13. *Inniſkillen,*	George Henderſon, Thomas Kerr.
14. *Ballyſhannon,*	Thomas Barbor, John Darragh.
15. *Liſleen,*	Robert Bridge, John Melcombſon.
16. *Omagh,*	John Price, Thomas Hewet.
17. *Charlemount,*	Hugh Moor, Samuel Bates.
18. *Londonderry,*	Thomas Davies, James M'Donald.
19. *Coleraine,*	Thomas Roberts, Nehemiah Price, Guſtavus Armſtrong.

20. *Belfaſt*, John Howe, James Jordan.
21. *Liſburn*, Robert Lindſay, John Burnett, Francis Armſtrong.
22. *Newry*, John Kerr, Thomas Hetherington, Samuel Moorhead.

Q. 7. How many Wives are to be provided for?

A. Ten.

Q. 8. How are theſe to be provided for?

A. Siſter Moore, Myles, Joyce, Hetherington, Brown, Griffith, and Price in Ireland: Siſter Condy, Rennick and Dinnen from England.

Q. 9. In what proportion do the Circuits in Ireland provide for the Wives?

A. As follows:

	Engliſh.		
Dublin,	24	0	0
Waterford,	3	0	0
Cork,	12	0	0
Bandon,	1	0	0
Limerick,	3	0	0
Caſtlebar,	2	0	0
Athlone,	4	0	0
Longford,	5	0	0
Sligo,	1	0	0
Ballyconnell,	1	0	0
Clones,	7	0	0
Liſbellaw and Inniſkillen,	3	0	0
Ballyſhannon	0	10	0
Liſleen,	1	0	0
Omagh,	1	0	0
Charlemount,	2	0	0
Londonderry,	1	0	0
Coleraine,	3	0	0
Belfaſt,	2	10	0
Liſburn,	5	0	0
Newry,	2	0	0
In all,	84	0	0

Q. 10

Q. 10. What Numbers are in the Societies?

A. Dublin,	1137
Waterford,	320
Cork,	820
Limerick,	240
Caſtlebar,	351
Athlone,	356
Longford,	340
Sligo,	288
Ballyconnell,	700
Clones,	887
Inniſkillen,	1450
Charlemount,	680
Ballyſhannon,	800
Omagh,	413
Londonderry,	236
Coleraine,	446
Belfaſt,	425
Liſburn,	600
Newry,	824
In all,	11313

Q. 11. What is the Kingſwood Collection?

A. £. 48 14 6

Q. 12. What is contributed to the Preachers' Fund?

A. £. 59 3 0

Q. 13. What is allowed out of it?

A. To John Bredin, for one Year,	15	0	0
John Mealy, —	12	0	0
Mary Pennington,	15	0	0
In all,	42	0	0

Q. 14. What is contributed for the yearly Expences?

A. £. 79 4 6

Q. 15.

Q. 15. How was it expended?

A. In ſupplying the Deficiencies of the Preachers' Salaries, and thoſe of their Wives and Children.

Q. 16. What Houſes are to be built this Year?

A. One at Tullamore, Carlow, Moat, and Tandaragee: and the Waterford Preaching-Houſe to be altered.

Q. 17. Much diſpute has been about a trifle, to prevent this for the future, we would be glad to know how ſhould we name the five *Engliſh* Vowels?

A. You are to learn this in England. Now the Engliſh name them thus: *a* as in *face*, *e* as in *me*, *i* as in *high*. Concerning *o* and *u* there is no queſtion.

Indeed the letter *a* has four ſounds, as in *all*, *calf*, *name*, *can*. But the third is far the moſt common. Therefore we name the letter from this.

The letter *e* ſounds either long as in *me*, which is its proper ſound, or ſhort as in *men*. But in Engliſh, it never ſounds like *a*: that is a mere French corruption.

Q. 18. Can any thing be done to preſerve the freedom of debate in our Conference?

A. Thoſe who divulge any thing of Importance mentioned in the Conference,---If they be in full connection, let them be put back upon trial for four years---If they be on trial, let them be ſuſpended for a year.

Q. 19 Are there any Advices concerning ſmaller things which you would give us?

A. I adviſe the Aſſiſtants,

1. To re-eſtabliſh Morning Preaching in all large Towns, at leaſt.

2. To exert themſelves in reſtoring the Bands:

4. Change a general Steward in every Circuit, and a particular Steward in every Society yearly.

I adviſe all the Preachers,

1. Always to conclude the Service in about an hour.

2. Never ſcream.

3. Never lean upon, or beat the Bible.

4. Wherever you preach, meet the Society.

5. Do not, without the utmoſt neceſſity, go home at night.

6. Never take part againſt the Aſſiſtant.

7. Have Love-Feaſts in more places.

8. Introduce no new Tunes. See that none ſing too ſlow, and the Women ſing their parts. Exhort all to ſing, and all to ſtand at ſinging, as well as to kneel at prayers.

9. Let none repeat the laſt line, unleſs the Preacher does.

10. Inform the Leaders, that every Aſſiſtant is to change both the Stewards and Leaders when he ſees good: and that no Leader has power to put any perſon either into or out of the Society.

11. Teach all the people to repeat the Lord's Prayer after the Preacher.

12. With all your might inculcate Induſtry upon all:

13. And Cleanlineſs.

14. Teach them to cure themſelves and their children of the Itch; and to prevent it by cold bathing.

15. Avoid Clowniſhneſs: therefore do not ſlouch your Hats.

16. Adviſe all our Women to wear plain Bonnets, or Hats.

17. Drink no Brandy and Water, but either Malt-drink or Toaſt and Water.

18. Diſcourage the drinking of Whiſky at Wakes, and improve thoſe meetings by ſo-

lemn Prayer: and preach the Funeral Sermon at another time.

19. Diligently ſpread both the large and ſmall Hymn Books, the Chriſtian Pattern, and the Primitive Phyſic.

20. Sell none but our own Books.

21. Let a Book-Preſs be provided in every Circuit.

22. I will print the Text of the New Teſtament alone.

Q. 20. When and where is the next Conference to be held?

A. At Dublin, on the firſt Friday in July, 1788.

FINIS.